

LASERFOCUS

May 1, 2024
STUDENT EDITION

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FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

John C. Hernandez, PhD

Students:

As spring blossoms into its full glory, colleges and universities across the nation gear up for one of the most significant events of the academic calendar - commencement. This annual tradition marks the culmination of years of hard

work, dedication, and perseverance for students embarking on the next chapter of their lives. But beyond the pomp and circumstance lies a deeper significance that resonates with both graduates and with the IVC community.

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A RECORD 3,150 ATTEND ANNUAL PREVIEW NIGHT

On April 17, our annual Preview Night attracted over 3,150 prospective IVC students and their families, setting a record-high attendance. The four-hour event offered an information session and outdoor resource fair that included 60 booths from academic degree programs, student support services, co-curricular programs, student clubs, and equity-focused programs.

[Watch Video Recap »](#)

[View Photos »](#)



COLLEGE NEWS AND INFORMATION

MESA Center Celebrates Grand Opening

On April 23, we celebrated the grand opening of the Mathematics, Engineering, Science Achievement (MESA) Center, located in B 353. The MESA Program launched this academic year and supported over 90 students in Fall 2023. The grand opening featured heartfelt testimonials from current MESA students who talked about their future career goals and how MESA is enhancing their academic journeys. [See Photos >](#)

IVC Speech Wins Big at Two National Championship Tournaments

After returning from Dublin, Ireland, IVC Speech and Debate had the honor of ending their season competing at not one, but two national championship tournaments. IVC Forensics kicked off their national season by competing against almost 30 other colleges and universities at the 2024 National Online Forensics Championship Tournament. The IVC team was named the top community college by being granted the 1st Place Sweepstakes Award! [Read More >>](#)

Four Baseball Players Are Named All-Orange Empire Conference

Irvine Valley's baseball team had four players named to all-Orange Empire Conference teams after the coaches annual meeting on Monday night. Sophomore right-hander Caden Byers was selected to the first team. Picked for the second team were sophomore center fielder Shane Stafford, freshman catcher Aaron Serrato, and freshman right fielder Kade Murray. [Read More >>](#)

AESL Celebrates the Achievements of Adult ESL Students

IVC's English as a Second Language (ESL) Department recently celebrated 120

Adult ESL (AESL) students who earned an AESL Certificate of Competency in Fall 2023. Following the formal awards ceremony, students practiced conversing with others, played games, and enjoyed lunch. [See Photos »](#)

Japanese Tea Ceremony Demonstration

On April 23, the Languages Department and Equitable Learning Experience Valuing Achievement, Transfer, and Empowering Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (ELEVATE AAPI) hosted a demonstration of a Japanese Tea Ceremony for the campus community. Professor Fumiko Ishii presented a brief history and overview of the tea ceremony, while Ms. Emika Noda led a demonstration. Students then had an opportunity to make their own tea using the methods they had just learned. [See Photos »](#)

Puente End-of-Year Celebration

On April 24, the IVC Puente Program celebrated its 3rd cohort with their annual End-of-Year Celebration at the IVC Performing Arts Center. They also recognized their Puente Transfers who are graduating in May. [See Photos »](#)



FROM CAREER TO CLASSROOM AND BACK: JULIE SALERNO'S IVC ODYSSEY

It's said that the best teachers are lifelong learners, and IVC alumna Julie Salerno is one learner-teacher who takes that ideal to heart. With more than 20 years of experience as an instructional aide at Irvine's Woodbury Elementary, Salerno found herself at a crossroads when she noticed the changing landscape of math education. Feeling a bit outpaced and eager to better support the

elementary students she worked with, she took a courageous step – she went back to school, enrolling at IVC. [Read More »](#)

IMPORTANT DATES AND DEADLINES

Summer '24 Open Registration

Wednesday, May 1

[See Registration Dates »](#)

Fall '24 Priority Registration

Monday, May 6

[See Registration Dates »](#)

Commencement Ceremony

Thursday, May 23 | 5 pm | Live Oak Terraces

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